**U.S. Assistance to Combat Malaria, T.B. and AIDS**

5097. SHRI RAMACHANDRAIAH RUMANDLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US President agreed to combat Malaria, T.B. and AIDS jointly;

(b) if so, the grants announced by USA for Research for this purpose; and

(c) the planning made to utilise the grant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NT. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**Spread of Fluorosis in Delhi**

5098. SHRI RAMACHANDRAIAH RUMANDLA:
SHRI C. RAMCHANDRAIAH:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi is in the grip of fluorosis, as reported in the Hindustan Times dated 24th March, 2000;

(b) if so, the cause of sudden spurt of this disease;

(c) the details of the study, if any, made by Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, the measures taken to check the disease early?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NT. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) Presence of flouride in the drinking water in Nationl Capital Territory of Delhi (NTCD) was reported through a public notice issued by Central Ground Water Authority on November 16, 1998. NTCD is now recognised as an endemic State for fluorosis based on high fluoroide content in drinking water reported by the Central Ground Water Board and Delhi Jal Board. The NTCD is short of 180 million gallons of water day. Due to this the residents have dug tub wells hand/ hand pumps in their premises and tapped the underground aquifer and this water has high fluoride levels. Most areas of NTCD have fluoride, the highest being in the North-West and Western Zones.